

GREWE, Wilhelm (Dr.)

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

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An expert in international law, Dr. Wilhelm Grewe was sent to Washington as Ambassador early in 1958. He had been Chief of the Office of Political Affairs of the West German Foreign Office since June 1955. He had previously been Chief of the Foreign Office Legal Division (1953-1954) and Foreign Office Adviser for Special Tasks (1954-1955).

Dr. Grewe was born on October 16, 1911, in Hamburg. The son of a merchant, he studied law at the universities of Berlin, Freiburg, Frankfurt, and Hamburg. From the Carnegie Foundation he received a scholarship for research at the Academy of International Law at The Hague. In 1936 he received his doctorate of laws from the University of Hamburg, submitting a thesis on the subject of "Law and Mercy"; the thesis contained a philosophical and juridical interpretation of the concept of mercy in Shakespearean drama, as in Measure for Measure.

Freed from military service because of a leg injury, Dr. Grewe taught at the universities of Berlin, Goettingen, and Tuebingen from 1941 to 1947. At Tuebingen he enjoyed a close association with Dr. Carlo Schmid, the legal expert of the Social-Democratic Party. Since 1947 he has been a member of the faculty of the University of Freiburg-in-Breisgau, acting as dean of that university's law and political science faculties in 1948 and 1949. Grewe's extensive knowledge of occupation problems prompted Chancellor Adenauer to appoint him chief of the Office for Replacing the Occupation Statute with Contractual Relations of the West German Foreign Office in May 1951. At that time Dr. Grewe had already made substantial contributions toward determining Germany's postwar legal position in his studies on "The Formation of the United Nations," "An Occupation Statute for Germany," and "Antinomies of Federalism." These treatises appeared in 1948.

Since coming to Washington some two and a half years ago as Ambassador, Dr. Grewe has played a prominent role in West German participation in preparations for the various conferences and exchanges with the Soviets occasioned by the continuing Berlin crises. He was the principal representative and spokesman for the Federal Republic at the 1959 Geneva Conference of Foreign Ministers, and is considered one of the leading German experts on the complex of problems associated with German reunification. Even as Ambassador he has found time to continue his scholarly pursuits, and a collection of his postwar papers on German foreign policy - a book of more than 500 pages - has just been published in Germany.

Dr. Grewe has been a tireless proponent of European integration since he entered the Foreign Office in 1951. One of the most active of the German legal technicians working on the EEC and Paris Agreements, he played a prominent role at the major international conferences on these subjects, acting as Special Delegate of the Federal Republic at the Berlin Conference in 1954.

In 1951

In 1953 he came to the United States for the first time, spending three months here under the joint auspices of the State Department and Georgetown University. He has also accompanied Chancellor Adenauer and Foreign Minister von Brentano on many official visits, including the trip to Moscow in September 1955 which resulted in the reestablishment of relations between the Soviet Union and the German Federal Republic, and Chancellor Adenauer's visit to the United States in May 1957. As Ambassador, Dr. Grewe has managed to travel extensively in the United States both as a sight-seer and in connection with numerous speaking engagements. While he discharges his representative functions in a reasonably satisfactory manner, he obviously does not enjoy the more hectic aspects of Washington diplomatic and social life.

Dr. Grewe speaks fluent English. He and the present Mrs. Grewe have one small child. Three older children of his by his first marriage live in Germany. He is presently the West German publisher of the Archives for Public Law and co-publisher of the influential journals Foreign Affairs and State Law.

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